

Amendments To Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A vertically integrated method for facilitating [[the]] processing of transactions for entities, comprising:

receiving a request at, by a computer based host system for facilitating the processing of transactions, a request for a transaction from an entity via a network;

utilizing, by the computer based host system, a first software program to process the request;

determining, at the computer based host system and by the first software program, which software programs are used for processing the transaction, the software programs being selected from a plurality of software programs located on a software solution system configured as a different system from the host system and the entity, the software programs providing processing for different services;

accessing, by the computer based host system, the software programs by the first software program via a network to process the transaction, at least one of the software programs accessing at least one other of the software programs;

receiving, results at the computer based host system, results of the processing from a network; and

providing the results from the computer based host system to the entity.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the accessing step includes accessing a solution stack within the software solution system having a plurality of software programs providing services to process the transaction.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the accessing step includes using an integration block to access the software programs and maintain the software programs decoupled.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the accessing step includes using the software programs providing the following services: credit card processing, calculation of taxes, warehouse management, shipping, and invoicing.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further including providing to the entities a single access point for processing of transactions using the software programs.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A system for providing a vertically integrated solution for processing transactions for entities, comprising:

a processor;

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory storing a plurality of processing instructions for directing the processor to:

~~a module configured to~~ receive a request at a host system for a transaction from an entity via a network;

utilize on the computer based host system a first software program to process the request;

~~a module configured to~~ determine at the host system by the first software program which software programs are used for processing the transaction, the software programs being selected from a plurality of software programs located on a software solution system configured as a different system from the host system and the entity, the software programs providing processing for different services;

~~a module configured to~~ access the software programs by the first software program on the host system via a network to process the transaction and to receive results at the host system of the processing from a network, at least one of the software programs accessing at least one other of the software programs; and

~~a module configured to~~ provide the results from the host system to the entity.

8. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory tangible computer readable medium (CRM) having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that, if executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform operations A method for providing a single source for facilitating the processing of transactions for business entities using a plurality of software programs, comprising:

providing to the entities a single communication point;

receiving, at a host system via ~~[[the]]~~ a single communication point, requests for transactions from the entities via a network;

calling, through use of a first software program via a network a plurality of software programs in a solution stack located on a software solution system configured as a different system from the host system and the entity, the plurality of software programs used to process the transactions, at least one of the software programs accessing at least one other of the software programs;

receiving results, at the host system, of the processing via a network; and

returning, from the host system to the entities via the single communication point, the results of the processing.

9. (Currently Amended) The CRM method of claim 8, further comprising decoupling the plurality of software programs using an integration block.

10. (Currently Amended) The CRM method of claim 8, wherein the calling step operation includes using the plurality of software programs providing the following services: credit card processing, calculation of taxes, warehouse management, shipping, and invoicing.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The CRM method of claim 8, wherein the calling step operation includes using software plug-ins to access the plurality of software programs.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step comprises receiving the request via a first network;

wherein said accessing step comprises accessing the software programs via a second network;

wherein the first network and the second network are different.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the first network and the second network are disconnected from each other except through the host system.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one other program interacts with a third program other than the at least one program.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim 7, wherein the at least one other program interacts with a third program other than the at least one program.

19. (Currently Amended) The CRM ~~method~~ of Claim 8, wherein the at least one other program interacts with a third program other than the at least one program.